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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Vasil Levski Cotton Spinning Mill, Sofia	DATE DISTR.	15 December 1954
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25X1

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25X1

1. The Vasil Levski cotton spinning mill (the former Tiger mill established in 1935) is located at 137 Prosveta Street in Sofia. Prior to its nationalization in 1947, this mill was owned by a Bulgarian engineer named Chopov (fnu), who was exiled to a remote village. All of the structures of the mill are old with the exception of a storage room for raw materials having a capacity of 300 tons. Living quarters for workers are under construction. Most of the equipment is old.
2. All the machines are in the main production hall, which is housed in a fairly modern ground floor building with a glass roof. It has five departments.
3. There are two types of spinning machines in the spinning department, the largest department in the mill: 24 machines of German make with 400 spindles each, and nine machines of Italian make with 320 spindles each. Of the total of 12,480 spindles, 7,000 spindles and all the guiding rollers (Leitungswalzen" or Tamburi) are new. They were brought from East Germany in 1953, the earlier ones having been damaged during World War II. The remainder of the spindles are old but in working condition. The spinning department works in three shifts round the clock. It employs 270 workers, of whom only 30 are men and the remainder are women 18 to 30 years of age.
4. The mill has four preparation departments with 74 machines. The department for the early processing of the raw cotton has three machines of English make. The second department has 45 machines, the third department has eight machines, and the fourth department has 18 machines, all of English, German or Italian make. Although they are old they are in satisfactory working condition.
5. The mill has a small repair shop for minor repairs on machinery. This shop, employing five workers, is equipped with one lathe, one drilling machine, and one milling machine.
6. The mill turns out Yarn No. 20 according to the English yard system, which corresponds to No. 34 according to the Soviet metric system, and Yarn No. 18, which corresponds to the Soviet No. 30.

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25X1

-2-

7. Each type of machine has fixed norms; an Italian machine has a lower norm than a German machine. Norms vary with the type of yarn. The norm for an eight-hour shift at a German machine with 400 spindles turning out Yarn No. 18 is 38 kilograms; i.e. 95 grams per spindle. The norm for the same machine for the same time turning out No. 20 yarn is 34 kilograms, i.e. 85 grams per spindle.
8. A worker who produces 38 kilograms of yarn per eight-hour shift on a German machine receives 16.5 leva, i.e. 0.43 leva per kilogram. If he produces more than 38 kilograms, he receives 0.43 leva for each additional kilogram plus a small bonus. If he does not reach the norm he is paid a correspondingly lower wage. The majority of the workers serve one machine at a time, but a small number of Stakhanovites serve two machines. Only 80 per cent of those serving one machine reach the norms and thus earn an average daily salary of 16.5 leva. Only two or three Stakhanovites earn between 700 and 1,000 leva per month. The average monthly salary of the other workers is about 350 leva.
9. The technical staff of the mill comprises the technical director, who receives 1,100 leva per month, the assistant to the technical director, ten department heads and shift leaders, a norms clerk, and three laboratory workers.
10. The management and administrative staff of the mill comprise the following:
 - a. The director general, who receives 1,200 leva per month.
 - b. The personnel manager.
 - c. The chief accountant, who receives 700 leva per month.
 - d. Three clerks who calculate the daily wages of the workers.
 - e. Chief cashier.
 - f. Assistant to the chief cashier.
 - g. Manager in charge of internal general services.
 - h. Seven accountants.
 - i. Three planning clerks and one chief planner, who receives 800 leva per month.
 - j. A time clerk, who is also the telephone operator.
 - k. Typist.
 - l. Three storemen.
 - m. Doorman.
 - n. Two policemen, who receive their salary from the mill, on guard during the night.
 - o. An official of the Sluzhba No. 45, the service responsible for antiaircraft defense. Such a service exists at every plant.
 - p. The Party cell secretary.
 - q. The secretary of the trade union,
 - r. A savings clerk. This function was only recently created in Bulgarian enterprises. In 1953 the government issued a decree according to which a worker would be paid a certain percentage of the value of raw materials, fuels, etc. which had been saved by him during his work. For the time being, this type of clerk has been appointed to every plant for the collection of data only, and as of September 1954 the decree had not been put into practice.

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25X1

-3-

11. Employees of the administrative staff receive fixed salaries, with no additional premiums or bonus. The average salary of the administrative staff, with the exception of the director general, the chief accountant and the chief planner, amounts to only 500 leva per month. The technical staff earns from 700 to 1,100 leva per month. The entire technical staff, in addition to the director general, the chief accountant and the chief planner, is entitled to premiums if the plan is executed in excess of 100 per cent. A premium cannot rise about 20 per cent of the basic salary.
12. According to the 1953 plan the mill was scheduled to produce 1,164 tons of yarn, but due to electricity breakdowns the mill produced only 1,160 tons. The 1953 production plan required 1,750,000 kilowatts of electricity; only 1,600,000 were actually supplied. The mill was supplied with 1,300 tons of raw cotton; only 1,264 tons were processed for the production of the 1,060 tons of yarn. The raw cotton came from the following countries: 700 tons (approximately) from Bulgaria [redacted] 200 tons from the USSR, and 40 tons from China. The raw cotton is supplied through two Bulgarian enterprises, the Tekstilni Vlakna enterprise supplying local cotton, and the Industrialimport enterprise supplying foreign cotton.
13. The plan for 1954 calls for 1,142 tons of yarn. In January and February 1954 the plant reached only 50 per cent of its monthly production schedule because these months were the worst with respect to electricity supply. Beginning in March the electricity supply situation improved and the monthly production rose to an average 95 per cent of the scheduled output. In September 1954 electricity was off for one or two hours daily.
14. The finished products of the mill are sold to various textile factories according to plans of the Department for the Cotton Industry (Upravlenie Pamuchna Industriya) which is located at 1 Patriakh Eftimi in Sofia. This department is responsible for cotton mills, cotton cloth plants, the stocking industry, and hosiery factories. The 1953 products were sold mainly to the following:
 - a. The Stanké Dimitrov plant for cotton cloth at Mezdra.
 - b. The Boris Hadzhi Sotirov plant for cotton products at Samokov.
 - c. The Emil Markov plant in Sofia.
 - d. 58 tons were sent to North Korea as one consignment of a total order of over 500 tons.
15. Bulgarian cotton is divided according to quality into four categories, while there are five types of Soviet cotton. The highest quality of Bulgarian cotton corresponds to the second type according to Soviet samples. [redacted]
16. Although Bulgaria obtains over 50 per cent of its raw cotton requirements from its own fields, it still depends very much on imports. The USSR supplies sufficient quantities of cotton, but this supply arrives very irregularly and the cotton often does not meet the requirements in terms of assortment of types. This does not affect the quantity of the production, but influences severely the quality of the cotton goods.
17. The cotton industry has developed considerably since 1950, and efforts are being made to export cotton products, even if only cotton yarns for the time being. Cotton cloth because of its low quality is not yet considered exportable and fit to compete with foreign products.

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-4-

18. The Mashinmen Zavod in Gabrovo, which produces spare parts for cotton mill machinery, experimented with the production of spindles but failed. Orders for 7,000 spindles were placed with this plant in 1953 by the Vasil Levski Mill, and after the orders were not filled, the spindles were ordered from East Germany.

19. A cotton spinning mill with 60,000 spindles, the largest in the country, is under construction at Plovdiv. The equipment has already been ordered from East Germany.

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-5-

Vasil Levski Cotton Spinning Mill, SofiaLegend

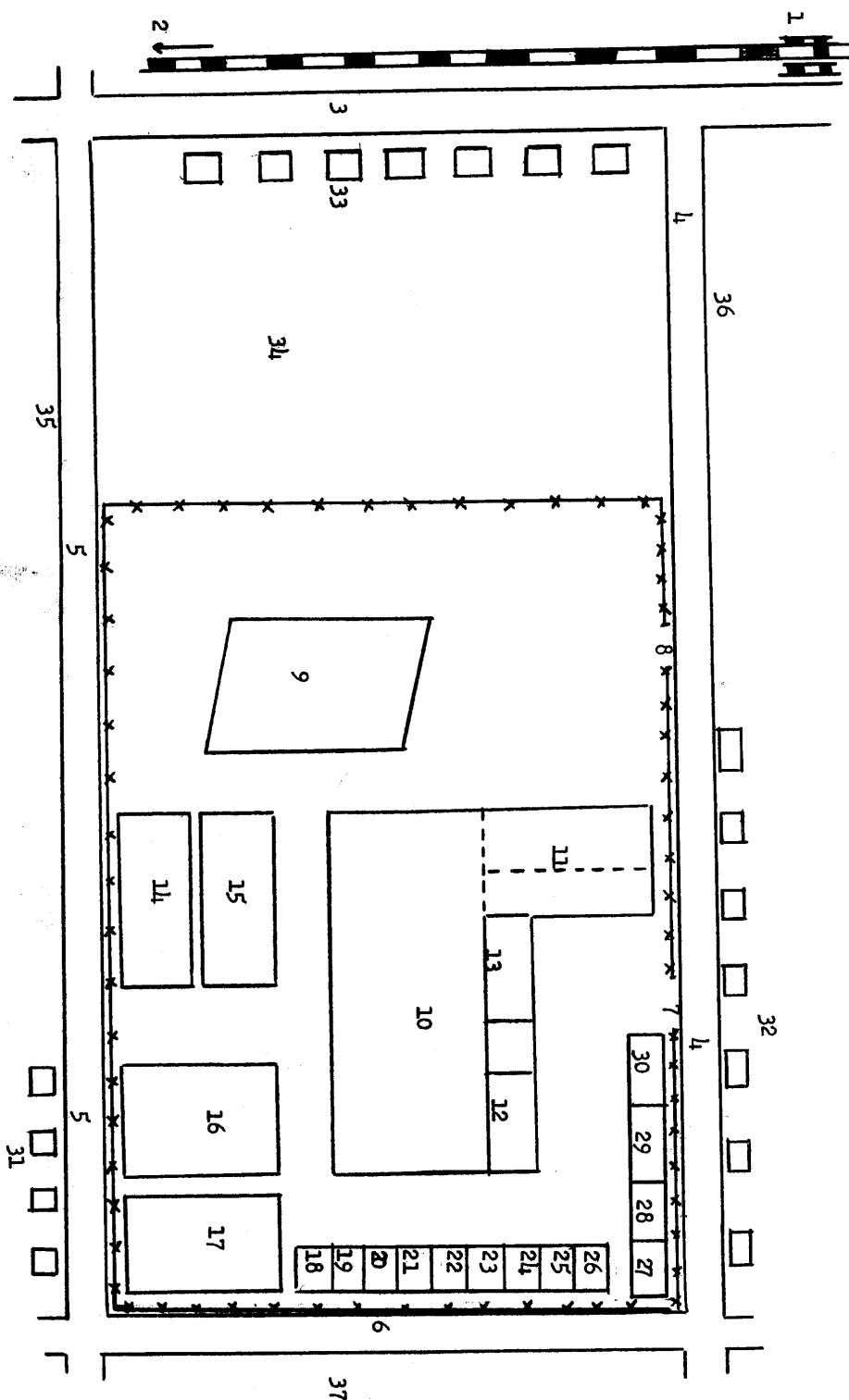
1. Voenna Rampa railroad station.
2. Direction of Sofia.
3. Voenna Rampa Street.
4. Prosveta Street.
5. Street
6. Street
7. Gate to the plant.
8. Gate to the store rooms for vehicles.
9. Store rooms for raw materials.
10. Production hall.
11. One-story building housing the stores for finished goods and the administration offices.
12. Office of the director general.
13. Office of the technical manager.
14. Workers' living quarter (2-story building).
15. Workers' living quarters under construction.
16. Repair shop.
17. Restaurant.
18. Cloakroom for workers.
19. Electrical repair shop.
20. Fire brigade.
21. Library.
22. Room of the storemen and the manager in charge of internal general services.
23. Party cell secretary.
24. Trade union secretary.
25. Planning department.
26. Recreation room with ping-pong facilities.
27. Clinic.
28. Personnel department.
29. Telephone exchange.
30. Doorman.
- 31,32,33. Living quarters.
- 23,35,36,37. Open fields.

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6



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